

MINUTES

COMMISSION MEETING

September 12, 2006

The New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission Meeting began at 3:42 P.M. on Tuesday, September 12, 2006. Chairman Thomas B. Getz, Commissioner Clifton C. Below and Commissioner Graham J. Morrison were present. Also present were the Division Heads or their designees. The following matters were discussed.

1. Approval of the September 6, 2006 Commission Meeting Minutes

Chairman Getz noted the draft minutes regarding item #4, did not reflect the reference that was made to the filing of letters by Office of Consumer Advocate and NH Legal Assistance urging the Commission to direct Verizon to proceed with the Flexible Regulation docket. With the amendment included, Chairman Getz moved to adopt the September 6, 2006 Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Morrison seconded and it was unanimously approved.

2. DE 06-115; Granite State Electric Company d/b/a National Grid
(Default Service Request for Proposals for Service
Beginning November 1, 2006 through April 30, 2007
And November 1, 2006 through January 31, 2007)

Chairman Getz announced the issuance of the September 7, 2006 Secretarial Letter stating that the Commission has directed National Grid to modify its schedule for issuing the November RFP and subsequent filing with the Commission for a decision by December 18, 2006.

3. DW 04-048; City of Nashua
(Petition for Valuation - Capstone Testimony)

Chairman Getz announced the issuance of the September 7, 2006 Secretarial Letter stating that the Commission has suspended the September 15, 2006 deadline for filing Capstone testimony and intends to deliberate the motion to continue at its September 12, 2006 public meeting.

4. DM 06-034; Metromedia Energy, Inc.
(Registration as a Competitive Natural Gas Supplier)

Chairman Getz announced the issuance of the September 7, 2006 Secretarial Letter stating that the Commission will approve Metromedia Energy, Inc., as a CNGS (competitive natural gas supplier) in the State of New Hampshire, with the renewal registration to be effective retroactive to April 7, 2006.

5. DE 06-123; Unitil Energy Systems, Inc.
(Petition for Approval of Default Service Solicitation
and Proposed Default Service Tariffs)
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Chairman Getz announced the issuance of the September 7, 2006 Secretarial Letter stating that the Commission has granted UES's request to reschedule the final bid due date and subsequent filing, and scheduled a hearing for consideration of the default service solicitation and proposed default service tariffs on Wednesday, September 27, 2006 at 9:00 a.m.

6. DE 06-079; Statewide Low Income Electric Assistance Program
(Annual Budgets)
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Chairman Getz announced the issuance of the September 11, 2006 Secretarial Letter stating that the Commission will consider the request of the NH Community Action Agencies (NHCAA) request for recovery of expenses related to the implementation of the supplemental assistance program in its review of the 2006/2007 EAP budgets.

7. DW 05-119; Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire
(Petition for Rate Increase)
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A motion was made by Commissioner Morrison, seconded by Commissioner Below and unanimously approved to issue an Order Authorizing Recovery of Rate Case Expenses.

8. DG 06-098; Northern Utilities, Inc.
(2006 Long-Range Integrated Resource Plan)
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A motion was made by Commissioner Morrison, seconded by Commissioner Below and unanimously approved to issue a Prehearing Conference Order.

9. DW 04-048; City of Nashua
(RSA 38 Proceeding, Motion to Continue Deliberations)
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Chairman Getz stated that a secretarial letter dated September 7, 2006, indicated the Commission would deliberate a motion to continue in this proceeding. Subsequently, on September 11, the Commission received a joint motion to eliminate the filing of capstone testimony and to make related adjustments to the procedural schedule that could render moot the Commission's need to deliberate on the motion to continue. The joint motion recommends the elimination of filing of capstone testimony and makes related adjustments to the procedural schedule, which would provide for the filing of limited update testimony on November 14.

Chairman Getz moved to grant the joint motion filed by the parties on September 11, Commissioner Morrison seconded and it was unanimously approved.

10. New Business

A. DE 06-061; Investigation of Federal Standards Established by the
Energy Policy Act of 2005

Chairman Getz stated that on September 7, the Commission received a proposed procedural schedule which recommends that all parties make comments by September 29 on the first standards covered by the proceeding after which data requests and responses would be filed. Staff comments would be due on November 3, followed by further discovery, technical sessions and a hearing on February 6, 2007.

Chairman Getz moved to adopt the general approach with certain amendments, which include maintaining September 29 as a date for all parties to file comments, followed by data requests and responses, but that all parties and staff may file reply comments on November 3. Instead of data requests and responses at that time, the parties shall undertake technical sessions as the means of discovery.

He stated that the February 6, 2007 hearing date recommended to the parties, is no longer available. Chairman Getz stated that the parties should make a proposal of alternative dates for technical sessions that would follow the November 3 reply comments and also make a recommendation for an alternative hearing date either in late January or early February as the calendar permits.

Commissioner Morrison seconded and it was unanimously approved.

Chairman Getz stated that a secretarial letter will be issued to memorialize this decision.

11. Administrative Matters

Chairman Getz announced that the next Commission Meeting will be held on Friday, September 22, 2006, at 3:30 P.M.

A motion was made by Commissioner Morrison, seconded by Commissioner Below and unanimously approved to adjourn this meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:50 P.M.